***Item 5 2-1-17 LRTP Update***

***Background – Metropolitan Transportation Plan***

**What is a metropolitan transportation plan (MTP)?**

* It is a multi-modal plan that is developed and adopted through the metropolitan planning process reflecting the collaborative decision making efforts among its stakeholders for its metropolitan planning area.
* The plan should reflect the values and the vision of its metropolitan planning area.
* In brief, the plan identifies the current transportation system, the future demand on the system, and strategies/actions to best meet these future demands given the perceived resources available.

**Why does the MPO need a transportation plan?**

* This is a federal requirement under 23 U.S.C. 134 (c)(1) that the MPO, in cooperation with the State and public transit operators, shall develop a transportation plan for the metropolitan planning area.
* For projects in the metropolitan planning area to be eligible for Federal-aid, they must come from the metropolitan planning process and be identified in the transportation plan.
* For projects in the transportation planning area that are funded with State/local funds but require federal action (i.e., new/revised Interstate access approval, NEPA clearance, and ROW clearance), they must be identified in the transportation plan.

**What is the relationship between the statewide plan and the MTP?**

* The metropolitan transportation plan should be consistent with the statewide plan.
* The portion of statewide plan that covers a metropolitan planning area should reflect the policies and vision of the metropolitan transportation plan.

**What is the relationship between the plan and TIP?**

* The transportation plan is usually referred to as the long-range (minimum of 20 years) plan.
* The TIP is a prioritized listing/program of transportation projects consistent with the metropolitan transportation plan. [23 CFR 450.104]

**What does "consistency" between the plan and TIP mean?**

* The policies and vision identified in the plan are clearly supported and implemented by projects identified in the TIP.
* Project concept and scope (i.e. mode and "size") are identified and established in the planning process and in the transportation plan, and further prioritized and advanced through the TIP.
* The TIP may be viewed as a "subset" of the more comprehensive MTP

**What planning activities and tasks are needed to support a plan update?**

* In completing a new or updating an existing transportation plan, the following data sets need to be developed, reviewed and analyzed:
	+ Population and employment projections
	+ Land use plans (e.g. expected growth and development patterns) for the region
	+ Existing transportation system inventories/networks
	+ Travel demand forecasts (TDF) using the above parameters

***Elements of a Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)***

The MTP shall:

* Include short and long-term strategies that lead to an integrated multimodal transportation system
* Facilitate the movement of people and goods
* Forecast transportation needs of people and goods over the period of the plan
* Identify congestion management strategies that demonstrate a systematic approach to meeting current and future transportation needs
* Identify pedestrian and bicycle facilities
* Reflect consideration given to pertinent management systems
	+ Include only those SOV projects coming from Congestion Management Process (CMP) in nonattainment TMAs
* Assess investments and other measures needed to maintain and make the most efficient use of the existing transportation system
* In air quality nonattainment/maintenance areas, include the design concept and scope (mode and alignment) descriptions of all existing and proposed transportation facilities to permit conformity determinations.
* Reflect a multimodal evaluation of the transportation, socioeconomic, environmental, and financial impact of the plan
* Reflect consideration of existing and pertinent land use plans and community development, employment, environmental, housing, and other relevant goals, objectives and strategies
* Describe proposed transportation enhancements
* Include a financial plan that demonstrates consistency of proposed transportation investments with available and forecasted sources of revenue, using year of expenditure (YOE) dollars (as of 12/11/07)
	+ Demonstrate, through the financial plan and other supporting documentation, the fiscal constraint of the MTP
* Discuss potential environmental mitigation activities and potential areas to carry out these activities
* Describe operational and management strategies to improve performance
* Include transportation and transit enhancement activities